

REMARKS

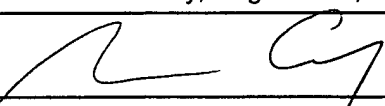
Claims 1-5, 13-15, 17-18 and 22-23 are pending in the present applications. In the present amendment, Applicants have canceled claim 23 and amended claim 1.

Claims 1-5, 13-15, 17-18 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 first paragraph. The Office has objected to the term "about" in reference to 1 ng/ml SCF as new matter. This term appears only in claim 1 and has been deleted in the present amendment. Applicants therefore submit that this rejection has been overcome and request its withdrawal.

Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as not enabled. Applicants have canceled claim 23 herein and therefore submit that this rejection is moot. Applicants request withdrawal of this rejection.

Claims 1-5, 13-15, 17-18 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as indefinite for use of the term "about" with reference to 1 ng/ml SCF. As discussed above, this term has been deleted herein. Applicants therefore request withdrawal of this rejection.

Applicants request this case now proceed to issuance. If any issues remain outstanding in the view of the Office, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

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